to wild a very Beneficial Busenes Business which I
prefer before any other thing due — If Walker & Weir say that I
in their debt they do great injustice, on the Contrare they fall in m
some hundreds Pounds the Ballance due me by them is £723 —
ode, Shall send you the Acco.t Properly attended Next Opportuni
I had a letter from Bror Mr Walker giveing me a detail of his & Mr
Weirs Misfortunes which has been imence, he seems to be very much
Concerned that they should have faild in your debt who was alw
been his good friend, but he is Possest of such Princepals that I am
well perswaded that if it is ever in his Power you'll be no loser
by him, I am extremely sorry for his Poor family which must be
drove to the greatest distresses unless some Person or other befriend
& would g lad was it in my Power to extricate him out of his Preser
difficultys. — You have inclosed a Coppy of the Claiments Acco.t aga
the Captors of the Ship Victoria taken by Reed with a letter
them from our Friends Messrs. Fordyce Grant & Co. which I send
you perusual. — The Burke you mention is now here and all h
Effects, If you have any demands against him lett me Know as
as Possible what they are & you may depend I shall secure them
you, He is a very great Man, at least would Pretend to such
this Island he is now about Purchasing no less then two Estates
without for himself or Employd by others I dont, however I can
secure that demand you have against not exceeding £2000
I beg you'll excuse Mr Donnison's not coming over so this opport
as I have got no body but him at Basseterre to take care of th
Business till my return but him, you may depend he shall
embrace the Verry first Opportunity on my return to Bass
which shall be very soon on that Acco.t — The Brig for th
sailed from hence the 29th Ultmo for St Kitts where

her Guns & Amunition I hope by this time She is Saild on her Voyage to the Main. — I have wrote Mr Donnison to inclose you the Vouchers of the Ship Alexander's Acco.t which I hope you'll receive Safe by this Opportunity. — I have heard nothing further about the Stretching of the Line so imagines that is now over, at least he will be very cautious how he Poses attention I expect Mr Home in the Country to Morrow, & shall communicate to him what you mention in your letter Annent the Negroes He intends liveing in Country intirely, but shall make no Purchase of Slaves, as I am no judge of Black Cattle without consulting him & gaining his Approbation, There is a Guineaman expected Daily to the adress of Mr Andw Malcolm Provided they are of the Country you mention on that Mr. Home approves of im shall Purchase the Number you want — Mr Donnison will likewise send you a Stock of our Barcates which is little better then yours, but are in hopes of there mending soon. — Mr Stewart that came over in Capt. Albany has been here Since Sunday he has been ailing for Some days Past but has now got the better of his Complaint, he has no applyd to me for any Money but Says he will he will want some soon, he is Surprized that you have not acknowledged the Receipt of the Letter he wrote you to himself tho.t you take notice in Mr Stewarts Letter that you received one from him, he desires to be remembred to you Doctor Stewart writes you By this Opportunity I am most respectfully

Dear Sir

263

to great advantage — The Brigantine Mary was intirely load
on your & Mr. Homes account excepting 41 Hhds Clayd Sugars on
your Particular Account which I shipt from your last Purchase in
on which was wrote for before Mr. Campbell went home. — There has been
Shipt from your first Purchase 52 Sugar & 15 Hhds Rums, the Cains
Mr. Stewart is now cuting Canes every will Bery yields nothing, which is
intirely owing to the grounds being to rich, Stewart intends leaving off cutting
& begin to Clean the Estate in order to have a good crop next Year. which
you can never fail of having, on this Estate the weather being allways so
favoured you'd need a New Sett of Works Compleat in order to take
of the next Crop, your Mill being excceive bad, & had it not been for
good Management she would not have done half, you likewise want a
good many more Negroes, upon this Estate as well as well as the other but
on this Particulary, There has 28 Negroe Men absented themselves fro
this Estate since. — Thurs days last, for what reason I cannot resolv
but I dare Say it is neither for want of Provisions nor good Treatment
advise you to send over Mr. first opportunity 4 good Drivers, a Couple of
white Men & a few Trademens Such as Masons Carpenters Coopers, The
first you'll have immediate Ouasion for, as you must begin to build soon,
There has been Shipt from your last purchase. — Hhds Sugars, The Taffa
or Rum the French Manager agreable to his former Custom sells it
out in Small Quantitys with which he defrays the Expences of the
Estates They have finished the Crop of this Estates some time ago, the
Works on this Estate being amongest the best in the Islands, jointed
with a fine Gang of Negroes & a Man who they trimble at the sight
of, they are not at lyable to Running away on this Estate, but does
not Know what they may do as the present Overseer is going to leave
it next Week so desired I will Provide one to Succed him, shall agreable
to Mr. Campbells orders to one Mr. Dickson on St. who is at Present
with Mr. Stewart. but would advise you at all wents to Send the
Drivers two for Each Estates as you'll certainly find you

ion, for unless they are kept Strictly to there Work as they allways have been the
ill be no good gote of them Mr Stewart is in greater want then the other for Dain
There is now ready to Ship from the Last Purchase 30 Hhds & 1 Trs of Clayd Sugars
& there will be in a Couple of weeks hence the same Quantity. I could wish you was
here as there is two Pces of Land which lyes very contigious to both your Estates, to
be Sold, Mr Campbell was about to Purchase them both but the Propritors would
not hearken to any Terms, but they now Sum to think more reasonably, I believe can
now be Purchased for with Mr Campbell offerd. The are not worth half so much
to any other Purr. – as to you, & the Propritors sooner this become English Subjects,
will sell at any Price & then two Spots you only want to make one of
the best Estates in all the West Indies, & capable of making with good
Management upwards of 1800 Hhds Sugars Yearly. This I don't say from
my own judgement, but from that of People of Experience in Planterships
but with this Provision that you Put on each Estate the same Quantity of
Slaves that there is now upon them, of this you can be a better judge when
you see them which I hope will be soon. – There has been some very large
Purchases maide lately one sold at £90,000 Curry. & Sixty Thousand Pund
down in Cash this Estate at the best of times never was known to make more
then 400 Hhds Sugars, it Was Purchased by Mr McClean he that was Coll.
of Martinique, Bureau & Turner has Puchased a nother very fine Estate a joining
to two they bought Some time ago. – I have been here Since Friday last in order
to get cured of a very sore leg I have occasiond by a Kick from a Horse it is mending
very fast & hopes I shall be able to go to Town next Week; I am now removing
the Goods at Marquis to Basseterre whow I shall if Possible Dump them there
is not a great Quantity remaining onhand, the Amount I cannot at present say
you of neither of the amount of the Sales, I have Remitted about £1200 Sr
which is but a very Poor remittance for so large Cargo but I hope shall be able
to make a Large remittance very soon, I want much to get quite of the Dry
goods, as they do not answer the greatest expences there is attending to the
Sale of them, This Northward, Provision & Main Trade if properly ma

s with a quick dispatch Cargo which I make not the least doubt of
Accessions from the advices I have from that part of the World be a great demand for
ery articles the Carries, the Cargo consisting of the following Articles Viz.t Fifty one Hhds
Masses Fifty and Qr.s Rums Six Tc.s of Muscorade Sugars & 2 hundred Loaves of Clayd
gars of the best Quality which cannot fail of a quick Sale. I was favoured with
from Mr. Campbell date at St Christophers the 1st Ultm.o which
t have I wrote at Sea, as they could not fetch that Island in his leaving
Island he appointed Mr. Home Mr Stewart & Self his & your Attorneys, he left
s with the former to Purchase Negroes for both Estates, which if his
s Presents his doing you may depend I shall comply with your request
is I can assure you off, that there's no gold Coast Slaves to be purchased
the Price Mr. Home Court you he brought 10 at, but on the Contrare
s neg.her your Price then £40 Currency There has only been three Cargo imported
since the reduction of the Island, some of which Still remains on hand unsold, Indeed
here was a Ships called in here Commands by John Clifston belonging to your g
Trustees & Traffords of Liverpool, I Supply'd him with every thing
was in want of while here, & Took his draft on those Gentlemen for the
mount he had but a very Poor Cargo of Slaves to the Number of 310, from
Coast of Angoala, while he lyd here he received orders from his Owners to proceed
mediately to Jamaica without loss of time, but Tempters stand Since he Put into
t Kitts & sold his Cargo to one Mr. Saddler there tho.s he Promised both
Mr. Campbell & Self that he would Touch at no other Island from
ce to Jamaica if did not call in at Antigua & there to apply him Self
ow for the Sale of his Cargo, — This Trade only wants a begining & when
Put upon a proper footing would be a very advantageous Branch of
e as there is a very great want of Slaves in this Island, as well as
iacou & St Vincient. which will be intirely depend on this Island
every thing the may & in particular for Negroes & Provided you could
little Credit. That is for 9 or 12 Month you could Sell them

All the Entries shall be made in your Books [illegible] the Inclosed Ballance sheet Donkison furnished me after [illegible] every entry that he thought requisite which hope will answer your Expectations in Shewing the State of your Books as [illegible] their could not be fill'd up; this should have sent[illegible] last quite forgot it till too Late which beg you'll excuse hope it will be in time to answer your wishes. — Since my last Call'd the Chance Captain Allowy belonging to your Brot[illegible] Doctor Archibald Campbell arrived and I have Sold the C[illegible] to very good Acco.t and the Sloop at Antigua by the former Turner the Latter to Mr. Thomas Sheppard also a Sloop the Norfolk Captain Nicholas arrived belonging to Mr Archibald White & Co the most part of her Cargo is also Sold and shall in good time Sell or Load this Sloops and Remitt for all the above

River Anthony Granadas 9th September 1763

John Ritchison Esqr
Sr

I was just now favoured with yours of the 29th Ultmo. & observes the Contents; It gives the greatest Pleasure imaginable in having your approb[illegible] with regard to the Sale of the Cargo of the Sloop Chance & hopes the Sale of the Sloop [illegible] will be equaly agreable to you, having Sold her at your Limits Viz.t £1100 Currency two days ago I had her Cargo for Virginia all ready to Ships at the time She was Sold & will be be no disappointment as I dare say we shall have more northward Vessels in a time, so that I have it in my Power to dispach the first that may arrive in every [illegible] I presented Mr. Lynch with your Account which he Acknowledged & he would pay [illegible] days, you may rest Satisfied that I shall execute this as well as every other of your to the outmost of my Power. — The Snow Greyhound Saild from hence the 2[illegible] Mr. Ducan Campbell on board She lye here just her Limited time & [illegible] She has to Load at Virginia, which I Imagine will be a Sufficient time to Load